



**CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST  
FOR  
A TRAINING WORKSHOP ON TECHNICAL WRITING AND PUBLISHING  
SCIENTIFIC PAPERS FOR AFRICAN FORESTRY STAKHOLDERS  
DAR ES SALAAM TANZANIA  
20-24 JUNE 2022**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The African Forest Forum (AFF) is a pan-African non-governmental organization with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. It is an association of individuals who share the quest for and commitment to the sustainable management, use and conservation of the forest and tree resources of Africa for the socio-economic wellbeing of its people and for the stability and improvement of its environment. The purpose of AFF is to provide a platform and create an enabling environment for independent and objective analysis, advocacy and advice on relevant policy and technical issues pertaining to achieving sustainable management, use and conservation of Africa's forest and tree resources as part of efforts to reduce poverty, promote gender equality, and economic and social development. Through all its programmes and activities, AFF seeks to promote the empowerment of all marginalized groups particularly women who have remained vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and whose representation, priorities and needs are seldom addressed in the forestry sector.

AFF operates through seven main Programmatic Areas namely (i) better management of forests and trees outside forests; (ii) forests and trees in economic development and poverty eradication; (iii) contribution of forests and trees to environmental health; (iv) contribution of forests and trees to food and nutrition security; (v) policies and governance; (vi) capacity building and skills development; and (vii) information management and impact assessment.

Since 2011, AFF, through a grant from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), has been implementing a project titled "*African forests, people and climate change*" that is in its third phase. The overall objective of the project is to enhance the role of African forests in assisting people adapt to the effects of climate change in various landscapes in ways that will improve livelihoods, sustain biodiversity, and secure the quality of the environment, as well as to strengthen the capacity of Africa's forests to adapt to climate change and to contribute to mitigation efforts. This current third phase (2018- 2022) of the project is guided by the following four specific objectives: (i) strengthening the capacity of African forestry stakeholders in adopting best practices that integrate both adaptation and mitigation options in response to the impacts of climate change and variability to biophysical and social systems in different landscapes; (ii) enhancing national forest governance by strengthening the capacity of African stakeholders to respond to the Paris Agreement and related global climate change policies and initiatives related to forestry; (iii) promoting entrepreneurship opportunities and technologically efficient means of value addition in African forestry, including those related to climate change that enhance livelihoods, national incomes and employment; and (iv) strengthen AFF's institutional capacity in creation and sharing of relevant forest and tree-based knowledge and information for improved decision making. Through these objectives, the project is expected to contribute to six of the seven AFF's Programmatic Areas listed above.

Another ongoing project at AFF is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and is entitled "*Strengthening management and use of forest ecosystems for sustainable development in Africa*". The overall goal of this project is "to generate and share knowledge and information through partnerships in ways that provide inputs into policy and decision-making options and capacity building, for improved forest management that better addresses poverty eradication and environmental protection in Africa".

## **2. BACKGROUND**

The abovementioned projects have in the last two years implemented a number of activities undertaken by a transdisciplinary team of about 40 African experts and 20 postgraduate students yearly. This work has produced a great number of outputs in form of writings and of varying quality. These products are regularly strengthened by AFF Secretariat staff and a number of reviewers and editors to improve their quality and enhance their potential for impact, at various levels and in various fields. In the process of producing these products by the contracted experts and postgraduate students, it has become clear that the capacity for scientific writing for most of our contracted experts and postgraduate students is still wanting. Therefore, to ensure that the continent produces knowledge products that remain continuously of high-quality standard, there is need to strengthen the capacity of AFF stakeholders on technical writing skills needed in the knowledge generation value chain i.e., from initial concept development stage up to publication of research results.

Such capacity building is in line with the AFF Programmatic Area no. 6 and directly contributing to objectives 4 and 5 of the SDC and Sida funded projects respectively, on strengthening the institutional capacity of AFF, and by extension, that of its stakeholders. In this respect, AFF is calling for expression of interest among African forestry stakeholders willing to participate in a training workshop on *“Technical writing and publishing scientific papers”*, to be held in **Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania from 20 to 24 June 2022 for Anglophone and Lusophone African forestry stakeholders.**

## **3. PURPOSE OF THE CALL**

The purpose of this call is to invite African forestry stakeholders, mainly earlier career forestry professionals, consultants and postgraduates to express their interest to participate in the training workshop on *“Technical writing and publishing scientifically sound knowledge products”*. The training will be structured as a write-shop, including theory, practice and tips on technical and scientific writing and their application to participants’ circumstances. Selected participants will be required to bring a draft knowledge product to be used as case study during the training. The detailed content of the training will be shared with selected participants.

## **4. HOW TO APPLY**

African forestry stakeholders interested to attend the training workshop should submit the following:

- Cover letter stating why you are interested to attend a training on technical and scientific writing as well as your publishing experience ;
- Up to date curriculum vitae.
- Proof of experience in conducting research, development projects and consultancies requiring scientific and technical reporting and communication;
- The title and outline of a draft knowledge product that could be used as case study during the training

All these should be submitted as email with attachment, indicating in the subject line: *“Expression of Interest for “STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF AFRICAN FORESTRY STAKEHOLDERS*

ON TECHNICAL WRITING AND PUBLISHING SCIENTIFIC PAPERS". The mail should be addressed to Professor Marie Louise Avana-Tientcheu through M.Avana@cgiar.org, Dr Djibril S. Dayamba (D.Dayamba@cgiar.org) and Dr Daud Jones Kachamba (D.Kachamba@cgiar.org), and with a copy to exec.sec@afforum.org. Applications will be considered until **27<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**.

**Note:** Please indicate for which language group (Anglophone or Francophone) you are submitting your application.